



SR0943

LRB097 22949 MST 71754 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are deeply
3 saddened to learn of the death of Thomas Vonachen of Delavan,
4 who passed away on September 11, 2012; and

5 WHEREAS, Thomas Vonachen was born on July 29, 1935, in
6 Peoria to Harold and Bernice Verner Vonachen; he graduated from
7 Spalding High School and attended Loras and St. Ambrose
8 Universities in Iowa; he married Janice Pence on June 2, 1976,
9 in Peoria; and

10 WHEREAS, Thomas Vonachen operated the Vonachen's Junction
11 Restaurant in Peoria for many years with his brother; he owned
12 several restaurants in the Peoria area; he attended the
13 University of Illinois Police Academy and was appointed a
14 patrolman with the Delavan Police Department in 1976; in 1978,
15 he was was promoted to chief of police and served in that
16 position until his retirement in 2003; and

17 WHEREAS, Thomas Vonachen has received numerous local and
18 State awards, including the Illinois Law Enforcement Officer of
19 the Year and the American Legion Meritorious Service Award; he
20 was also recognized by President George W. Bush and members of
21 the Illinois 93rd General Assembly for his life-long dedication
22 and commitment to the citizens of Delavan; and

1 WHEREAS, Thomas Vonachen was preceded in death by his
2 daughter, Jody Brown; his sisters, Mary Ann, Marta, and Bobbie;
3 and his brother, Jack; and

4 WHEREAS, Thomas Vonachen is survived by his wife, Janice;
5 his son, Steven Scott Vonachen; his daughters, Jill A. Hayes
6 and Kellie Peterson; his 6 grandchildren; his great
7 granddaughter; his brother, Harold "Pete" Vonachen; and his
8 sister, Susie Dawson; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL
10 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
11 Thomas Vonachen, and we extend our sincere condolences to his
12 family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it
13 further

14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
15 presented to the family of Thomas Vonachen as an expression of
16 our deepest sympathy.